

Aue Stagecoach Inn and Complex,
Max Aue House
Boerne Stage Road, Interstate 10
Leon Springs
Bexar County
Texas

HABS No. TX-3220 A

HABS
TEX
15-1885
1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HABC
TEX
15-LESP
1A-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

AUE STAGECOACH INN AND COMPLEX,
MAX AUE HOUSE

HABS No. TX-3220A

Location: Boerne Stage Road, Interstate 10, Leon Springs, Bexar County, Texas.

Present Owner: The Aue Family.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: This house is a good representative type for the simple dwellings so commonly erected in this area by mid-nineteenth century German immigrants. Its significance is enhanced by its historical association as part of a Texas frontier stagecoach station complex.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Circa 1855.
2. Original and subsequent owners: In 1852, Max Aue, one of a number of German immigrants to Texas in the 1850s, procured the property from John O. Meusebach. It has been in the Aue family ever since.

B. Historical Context: See Aue Stagecoach Inn Complex, HABS No. TX-3220.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: As an example of typical frontier type, the house's interesting features include a roofed porch and a lean-to.
2. Condition of fabric: Abandoned and in poor condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: This one-and-a-half story rectangular house measures approximately 22' x 42'.
2. Foundations: The foundations are rubble limestone laid in mortar approximately two feet above grade and off-set where walls begin. The cellar underneath has approximately 7' 6" clearance.

3. Walls: The walls are yellowish rubble limestone of local origin, laid in lime mortar, and off-set from the foundation. The wall under the porch is stuccoed with lime. Other walls are unstuccoed. "Shadows" on the south wall and roof indicate that there may have been a lean-to on that side at some time.
4. Structural system: Floor and roof systems are of wood joist construction: the upper floor of 2-1/4" to 2-3/4" x 8-1/2" spaced about 27" on centers; the roof of 2" x 4" spaced about 24" on centers. The first floor joists and basement are inaccessible.
5. Porch: There is a plain three-bay porch across the east facade. The slope of the roof breaks almost imperceptibly at the plate line and extends over the porch at about the same pitch supported by wood posts set on a rubble wall foundation. The floor is packed dirt.
6. Chimney: One exterior chimney of rubble on the north facade rises above the roof.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: All openings are spanned by wood lintels. They have plain wood trim, four-panel wood doors, and splayed and plastered reveals. There is a three light transom over the front doorway.
 - b. Windows: The openings are spanned by wood lintels and have splayed and plastered reveals. On the front (east) facade, the south window is a triple-hung sash, 6/6/6 light, and the north window is a double-hung sash, 6/6 light. On the south elevation, the first floor window is a double-hung sash, 6/6 light, and the second floor window is a triple-hung sash, 6/6/6 light. The former may originally have been a doorway, since its bottom part is boarded up. Two windows flank the chimney on the upper north facade; they are 4/4 light double-hung wood sash. All window openings have plain wood trim.
8. Roof: The gable roof, originally shingled, now has a metal lapped V-seam cover.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The two first floor rooms are connected by a doorway and separated by a north-south wall. The rear (west) portion of the first floor has west and south exterior door openings. There are an attic and a cellar, each one room in plan.

2. Stairways: The interior stair leading to attic space is located in the northwest corner of the front room. It is ~~quarter-turn-with-landing~~ type, of simple wood construction.
3. Flooring: Tongue-and-groove boards. The west room on the first floor has diagonal boards.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The front (east) room presently has no ceiling. The west room and attic room have painted tongue-and-groove ceilings. The walls are plastered.
5. Doorways and doors: The one interior doorway, in the north-south masonry wall, provides access between the east and west first floor rooms. It has a four-panel wood door with plain wood trim and a molded outer edge. The opening is slightly splayed.
6. Trim: There is none remaining, with the exception of plain wood baseboards.
7. Heating: The heating was originally by a fireplace in the north wall. It has an inner facing of stone and a brick hearth, but no mantel.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces east. The structure is located on property bounded by Fredericksburg Road on the east and paved access road to I-10 on the west called the Boerne Stage Road. Overgrown shrubs and trees surround the property. The Max Aue House forms the southern part of the Aue Stagecoach Inn complex. To the west of the house are a water tower with a wooden tank and a windmill with a metal tower. To the south is a privy.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bibliography:

Aue family, general information.

Deed records, Bexar County Courthouse, San Antonio, Texas.
H2/472-473; K2/155, 166, 176; L2/144; X1/94, 95.

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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The San Antonio project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in the summer of 1968, and was made possible with funds from HABS and two sponsors, the Bexar County Historical Survey Committee and the San Antonio Conservation Society. Under the direction of James Massey, Chief of HABS, the project was carried out by Wesley I. Shank (Iowa State University), project supervisor, and by student assistant architects, Charles W. Barrow (University of Texas); Les Beilinson (University of Miami); William H. Edwards (University of Illinois); and Larry D. Hermesen (Iowa State University) at the HABS field office in the former Ursuline Convent buildings, San Antonio. John C. Garner, Jr., director of Bexar County Architecture Survey, did the outside work on the written documentaries. Susan McCown, a HABS staff historian in the Washington, D.C office, edited the written data in 1983, for preparation of transmittal to the Library of Congress. Dewey G. Mears of Austin, Texas took the documentary photographs of the San Antonio structures.